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FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 836, APRIL 1, 6 P.M.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: AD 901079
By: HR-m/sq, 5/23/91Control: 773
Rec'd: APRIL 1, 1959
6:05 P.M.SENT BONN 748, DEPARTMENT 836, REPEATED INFORMATION POLAD
USAREUR, MOSCOW, LONDON, PARIS, USAF 41, USAF ADVON UNNUMBERED

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR THURSTON AND WEST

AT POLAD MEETING TODAY BRITISH POLAD LEDWIDGE RAISED SUBJECT
C-130 FLIGHT MARCH 27. ALTHOUGH NOTING RAF HEADQUARTERS
IN FEDREP AND BRITISH-FRENCH BASC CONTROLLERS BERLIN GIVEN
ONE HOUR ADVANCE NOTICE OF FLIGHT, HE QUESTION IF PROCEDURE
FOLLOWED MARCH 27 ACCORDED WITH ASSURANCE GIVEN BY US CIVIL
MEMBER BERLIN AIR COORDINATING COMMITTEE MARCH 27, 1958;
THAT "SUFFICIENT ADVANCE NOTICE OF ANY (C-130) FLIGHT WOULD
BE GIVEN TO REVIEW AND COORDINATE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS TO
CONTROLLERS AT BASC". LEDWIDGE SAID SOVS OF COURSE HAVE
RIGHT TO USE CORRIDORS BELOW 10,000 FT. FOR SOV AIRCRAFT
FLIGHTS IF THEY CHOOSE AND COULD INTERFERE WITH COMMERCIAL
AIRLINE SCHEDULES IF THEY RECOMMENCE FILING FLIGHT PLANS
FOR LOW ALTITUDE FLIGHTS AS THEY DID PRIOR TO 1954. IN OVER-ALL
INTERESTS AIR SAFETY LEDWIDGE SUGGESTED AS PERSONAL OPINION
POSSIBLE "TACIT AGREEMENT" WHEREBY WE INSIST RIGHT TO FLY AT ANY
ALTITUDE BUT IN FACT ASSURE SEPARATION ALLIED-SOVIET AIRCRAFT
BY AVOIDING THEIR OPERATING AREA. SUCH "TACIT AGREEMENT"
NEED NOT NECESSARILY RESTRICT ALLIES BELOW 10,000 FT. LEVEL.

FRENCH POLAD EXPRESSED CONCERN LEST STRONG TONE OF SOV MARCH
30 PROTEST NOTE INDICATE SOVS PREPARED TO LEAVE BASC SINCE
THEY WOULD NO LONGER GUARANTEE FLIGHT SAFETY IF ALLIES COMMENT
OVER 10,000 FT. FLIGHTS.

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